

Table 1. Number, percent distribution, and annual rate of ambulatory care visits by setting, according to patient's age, sex, and race: United States, 1996

Ambulatory care setting	Total	Age						Sex		Race		
		Under 15 years	15–24 years	25–44 years	45–64 years	65–74 years	75 years and over	Female	Male	White	Black	Other
Number of visits in thousands												
Combined settings	892,025	176,919	81,762	231,031	198,885	105,624	97,803	523,681	368,345	740,818	119,794	31,413
Physician offices	734,493	140,851	59,086	184,449	170,229	93,879	85,999	434,509	299,984	625,472	81,813	27,208
Outpatient departments	67,186	15,196	8,310	18,547	14,911	5,799	4,422	41,298	25,888	46,644	18,377	2,164
Emergency departments	90,347	20,872	14,366	28,036	13,745	5,945	7,382	47,873	42,473	68,702	19,604	2,041
Percent distribution												
Combined settings	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Physician offices	82.3	79.6	72.3	79.8	85.6	88.9	87.9	83.0	81.4	84.4	68.3	86.6
Outpatient departments	7.5	8.6	10.2	8.0	7.5	5.5	4.5	7.9	7.0	6.3	15.3	6.9
Emergency departments	10.1	11.8	17.6	12.1	6.9	5.6	7.5	9.1	11.5	9.3	16.4	6.5
Number of visits per 100 persons ¹												
Combined settings	337.3	297.5	224.5	276.7	373.7	579.3	718.7	386.8	285.4	339.2	354.3	257.5
Physician offices	277.8	236.9	162.2	220.9	319.9	514.9	632.0	321.0	232.5	286.4	242.0	223.0
Outpatient departments	25.4	25.6	22.8	22.2	28.0	31.8	32.5	30.5	20.1	21.4	54.4	17.7
Emergency departments	34.2	35.1	39.4	33.6	25.8	32.6	54.2	35.4	32.9	31.5	58.0	16.7

¹Based on U.S. Bureau of the Census monthly postcensal estimates of the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States as of July 1, 1996. Figures are consistent with an unpublished hard-copy national population estimates release package PPL-57 (U.S. Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin: 1990–1996) and have been adjusted for net underenumeration using the 1990 National Population Adjustment Matrix.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 2. Number, percent distribution, and annual rate of ambulatory care visits by geographic region of visit and setting: United States, 1996

Geographic region	Combined settings	Physician offices	Outpatient departments	Emergency departments
Number of visits in thousands				
All visits	892,025	734,493	67,186	90,347
Northeast	181,393	143,902	19,704	17,786
Midwest	211,954	163,930	25,056	22,968
South	282,741	236,036	14,105	32,600
West	215,939	190,625	8,320	16,993
Percent distribution				
All visits	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Northeast	20.3	19.6	29.3	19.7
Midwest	23.8	22.3	37.3	25.4
South	31.7	32.1	21.0	36.1
West	24.2	26.0	12.4	18.8
Number of visits per 100 persons ¹				
All visits	338.0	278.3	25.5	34.2
Northeast	333.3	264.4	36.2	32.7
Midwest	347.9	269.1	41.4	37.7
South	310.0	258.8	15.5	35.7
West	376.3	332.2	14.5	29.6

¹Regional estimates were provided by the Division of Health Interview Statistics (DHIS), NCHS, and are based on U.S. Bureau of the Census estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States as of July 1, 1996. DHIS estimates differ slightly from monthly postcensal estimates because of differences in the adjustment process.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.